

**PATENT**  
Application No. 09/868,379  
Filing Date: 08/15/2001  
Examiner: Michelle Graffeo  
Art Unit: 1614  
Attorney Docket No. H03763 PCT/US

**MAIL STOP – AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**Amendment and Response  
To United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Examiner's Action Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Dear Sir:

**I. Introduction**

Applicants' Amendment and Response is to an United States Patent and Trademark Office ("Office") Examiner's Action ("Action") dated August 19, 2005. In the Action, the Examiner set a shortened statutory period for Applicants' reply of three months, *i.e.*, to November 19, 2005. Applicants submit herewith a Petition for Extension Under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) of three months, *i.e.*, to February 19, 2006, for Applicants to reply to the Action. February 19, 2006, falls on a Sunday and February 20, 2006 is Washington's Birthday, a federal holiday. Accordingly, Applicants' Amendment and Response is timely under 37 C.F.R. §1.7 as it is being filed on February 21, 2006, with a Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. §1.8.